

Resolution No.:	<u>16-592</u>
Introduced:	<u>April 29, 2008</u>
Adopted:	<u>June 10, 2008</u>

**COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND
SITTING AS A DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THAT PORTION
OF THE MARYLAND-WASHINGTON REGIONAL DISTRICT
WITHIN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: Councilmember Berliner

SUBJECT: Resolution to determine disposition of house in Hillmead Neighborhood Park

Background

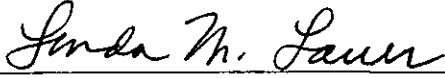
1. The County Council has approved the establishment of an Advance Land Acquisition Revolving Fund (ALARF) for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.
2. The County Council in Resolution 16-359 approved acquisition of the Piotrow property as an ALARF purchase on October 30, 2007. Resolution 16-359, in action paragraph 4, required that "no demolition of existing improvement will occur until the Council has discussed this with the Planning Board and the Council determines that the proposed disposition of the improvement is in the public interest."
3. The County Planning Board believes the house should be demolished and the land it occupies should be used to expand the park. The County Executive has not submitted a proposal to use the building as affordable housing nor taken a position on the disposition of the building.
4. Use of this property for parkland is consistent with the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Master Plan, which specifies that opportunities for additional acreage for parkland should be considered as they are identified.
5. The County's Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan recommends that the County give priority to open space, park, and recreation investments in areas with the greatest existing or proposed density and the Planning Board recommended the acquisition of the Piotrow property with the sole goal of expanding the Hillmead Neighborhood Park. The Planning Board further determined that the land on which the house sits is the most suitable area for development of additional park facilities without the removal of trees.
6. The Council has concluded that the recently acquired addition to the Hillmead Neighborhood Park should remain as parkland, and that the house may be demolished by Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, using ALARF funds.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, sitting as District Council for that portion of the Maryland-Washington Regional District within Montgomery County, approves the following resolution:

1. The recently acquired addition to Hillmead Neighborhood Park must remain as parkland, and the house may be demolished at a time to be determined by Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.
2. The total cost of the demolition of improvements on the property described in (1) above must not exceed \$65,000 to be funded by ALARF.
3. Expanded parkland at this location is a proper public purpose.
4. This action is consistent with the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Sector Plan and complies with Maryland Code, Article 28, § 7-106.
5. Prior to the acquisition of parkland through the use of ALARF funds, the Department of Parks shall assess, in collaboration with executive agencies, whether existing structures on the land to be purchased, if any, could be used in a cost effective manner to serve other important public purposes, and if such use would be compatible with the acquisition of the land for parkland. This assessment and any related recommendations from the Planning Board and executive agencies should be submitted to the Council at the same time the request for ALARF funding is submitted.

This is a correct copy of Council action.


Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council